



## **SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The White Church on the Hill in the Heart of Northford

1382 Middletown Avenue, P. O. Box 96, Northford, CT 06472

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January 27, 2019  
**ANNUAL MEETING**

My dear Friends and Parishioners of St. Andrew's,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for allowing me the privilege and opportunity to serve St. Andrew's as Senior Warden for the past year. And many thanks to everyone who works so hard in our collective continual commitment to our church and our parish.

In 2018 St. Andrew's lost a long time parish member with the passing of Nelson Cecarelli in January. Nelson was highly regarded in town, and in the wider agricultural community. He always assured that his family vegetable farm donated often and generously to the Food Pantry of North Branford, located at St. Andrew's, and that family commitment continues.

St. Andrew's has had a number of new members join our parish in 2018. Everyone, "new" and "long-time", young, elderly, and everyone in-between, is most welcome at St. Andrew's! The more folks we have in our parish, the more vibrant we can be, more hands to join in prayer, more hearts to love and serve the Lord in our community.

In June we had a clothing donation shed installed in the back of the parking lot next to the church. We partner with St. Pauly Textile in this initiative, and the donations are distributed within the U.S.A. as well as in dozens of countries around the world, helping people in need. St. Andrew's receives a small payment from St. Pauly's. For the first 5 months of this program St. Andrew's has received about \$435, which means the generous folks in our community have donated well over 10,000 pounds of clothing and other denotable items! Once again demonstrating that people helping people is the backbone of our community.

The proceeds from the clothing shed, the percent of class fees donated by Care Goodstal Spinks for yoga classes, fees paid for parish hall rentals, and the rent paid by FPNB are some small examples of monies coming in to St. Andrew's, which helps offset operating expenses and funds outreach programs.

We continue our many other outreach programs: Covenant To Care For Children; St. Vincent de Paul, Middletown - donating peanut butter all year, and serving Sunday supper several times a year, along with the other MACM churches; FPNB; North Branford Social Services "Basket Share" program; North Branford Scholarship program. And of course, we continue with fundraising in order to help pay for our outreach efforts. our annual Harvest Supper; Ice Cream Socials; Rhubarb Fest; and Angel Tree donations.

We are very fortunate to have a beautiful new sign on the front lawn of St. Andrew's. The red color mirrors the welcoming red doors of our church, and it is much easier to see and read. Carol Larsen very generously donated the sign in loving memory of her late partner Jim. Dean and Gertie Heath donated the lighting. And my husband Jim and I donated the letters.

Our annual stewardship donations continue to fall. Total pledges received in 2018 were less than what was received in 2017. This is a pattern we've seen for a few years now. I respectfully ask you again to give some serious thought to your annual pledge to St. Andrew's. Increase your pledge if you can. If you haven't done so already, please pledge generously this year. Forms are located on the table at the back of the church, or contact me for a form.

The MACM Cluster Council is continuing to work with the Diocese to come up with an agreeable solution for the future clergy model for St. Andrew's, Emmanuel and St. James. Progress has been made, and we hope to have resolution on this issue soon.

Thank you!  
Have a blessed 2019,

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